Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16. (cancelled)

Claim 17. (previously presented): A method for encoding an XML-based document including contents according to an XML schema language definition, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a coded binary representation of the document by assigning binary structure codes to the contents of the document via code tables,

assigning structure codes to textual contents of a complex type data type with a mixed content model.

- Claim 18. (previously presented): The method according to claim 17, wherein the assignment of the structure codes to the textual contents of a complex type data type with mixed content model is effected exclusively via OperandTBC coding tables.
- Claim 19. (previously presented): The method according to claim 17, wherein the textual contents of a complex type data type with the mixed content model are further assigned position codes.
- Claim 20. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein single element position codes and/or multiple element position codes are used in the assignment of the position codes.

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- Claim 21. (previously presented): The method according to claim 19, wherein the position codes are encoded using codes of variable length.
- Claim 22. (currently amended): The method according to claim 21, wherein the position codes are encoded using the a code vluims bf5.
- Claim 23. (currently amended): A method for decoding a <u>coded</u> binary representation of an XML<u>-based</u> document, comprising:

receiving a coded binary representation of the document by assigning binary structure codes to the contents of the document via code tables;

assigning structure codes to textual contents of a complex-type data type with a mixed content model; and

converting the assigned structure codes into the <u>tectual textual</u> contents of the XML-based document that were assigned to the structure codes.

- Claim 24. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the assignment is effected by means of structure codes (SBC) via OperandTBC coding tables.
- Claim 25. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 23 wherein binary representations of textual contents of a "complex type" data type with the "mixed" content model, addressed by means of "position codes", are further converted into textual contents at the assigned position.
- Claim 26. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the "position codes" comprise "single element position codes" (SPC) and/or "multiple element position codes" (MPC).
- Claim 27. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the "position codes" are encoded using codes of variable length.

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Claim 28. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the "position codes" are encoded using the <u>a</u> code vluimsbf5.

Claim 29. (previously presented): A device for encoding XML-based documents including contents according to an XML schema language definition, comprising:

means for generating a coded binary representation of the document by assigning binary structure codes to the contents of the document via code tables;

means for assigning structure codes to textual contents of a complex-type data type with a mixed content model.

Claim 30. (currently amended): A device for decoding XML-based documents including contents according to an XML schema language definition, comprising:

means for generating a coded binary representation of the document by assigning binary structure codes to the contents of the document via code tables;

means for assigning structure codes to textual contents of a complex-type data type with a mixed content model; and

means for converting the assigned structure codes into the <u>tectual textual contents</u> of the XML-based document that were assigned to the structure codes.